AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a composite product,

comprising the steps of:

providing ~~one or more materials~~ a materials' treating apparatus;

feeding natural fiber material, binding agent and a water-reactive material ~~reacting with water~~ to the ~~materials~~ materials' treating apparatus,

~~whereby~~ the natural fiber material ~~is~~ being fed into the apparatus ~~so moist that its~~ with a water moisture percentage ~~is~~ more than 1%, ~~whereby~~ and said water-reactive material ~~reacting with water~~ reacts with the water present in said natural fiber material and/or released from ~~it~~ said natural fiber material; and

forming a composite product ~~with~~ using the ~~materials~~ materials' treating apparatus.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the moisture percentage of the natural fiber material is more than 10%.

3. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the moisture percentage of the natural fiber material is 1 to 50%.

4. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein moisture is removed from the natural fiber material in the material treating apparatus before pressing the material out of this apparatus.

5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the reaction of the material reacting with water is started in the ~~materials~~ materials' treating apparatus by means of heat and moisture.

6. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the binding agent is plastic.

7. (original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the material reacting with water is a cross-linking agent or a plastic compound cross-linkable by the effect of water.

8. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the material reacting with water is a coloring agent.

9. (original) A method according to claim 8, wherein natural fiber material is colored with the coloring agent.

10. (original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the natural fiber material is wood.

11. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the natural fiber material is wood.

12. (original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the natural fiber material is wood.

13. (original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the natural fiber material is wood.

14. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the natural fiber material is the rice husk.

15. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~materials~~ materials' treating apparatus is a conical extruder.

16. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the binding agent is pine oil.

17. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the moisture having been removed from the natural fiber material is directed as steam to heat the natural fiber material to be fed to the ~~materials~~ materials' treating apparatus.

18-29. (canceled).

30. (new) A method of manufacturing a composite product, comprising the sequential steps of:

feeding a natural fiber material, a binding agent and a water-reactive material into an apparatus for treating materials,

the natural fiber material being fed into the apparatus with a water moisture percentage more than 1%;

altering the natural fiber material, within the apparatus, by reacting the water-reactive material with the water present in the natural fiber material or released from the natural fiber material; and

forming a composite product from the altered natural fiber material.

31. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein,

the water moisture percentage of the natural fiber material is more than 10%,

the reacting of the water-reactive material with the water present is by heat, the binding agent is plastic, and

the water-reactive material is one of a cross-linking agent and a plastic compound cross-linkable by water.

32. (new) The method of claim 31, wherein,

the water-reactive material is a coloring agent, and

the altered natural fiber material is colored with the coloring agent.

33. (new) The method of claim 32, wherein, the natural fiber material is wood.

34. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein, the natural fiber material is rice husk.

35. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein, the apparatus is a conical extruder.

36. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein, the binding agent is pine oil.

37. (new) A method according to claim 30, wherein, said step of altering the natural fiber material by reacting the water-reactive material with the water present removes moisture

from the natural fiber material, the removed moisture directed as steam to heat the natural fiber material within the apparatus.

38. (new) A method of manufacturing a composite product, comprising the sequential steps of:

feeding a natural fiber material having a water moisture percentage of more than 1%, a binding agent, and a water-reactive coloring agent into an apparatus for treating materials,

reacting, within the apparatus, the water-reactive coloring agent with the water moisture present in the natural fiber material to color the natural fiber material; and

forming a composite product from the colored natural fiber material.